

# APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST FORM OREGON HOUSE DELEGATION FISCAL YEAR 2010

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: FEBRUARY 20, 2009**

**PLEASE NOTE:** As required by the House Appropriations Committee, all requests will be made public on the requesting Member's website.

1. Project Title: Oregon Solutions Project Exodus
2. Organization Name and address: Tillamook County, 201 Laurel Ave., Tillamook, OR 97141
3. Primary Contact name, phone number, mobile phone number, fax number and email
4. Project Location Address (if different from Organization): Tillamook Bay Basin
5. Please describe the requesting organization's main activities, and whether it is a public, private non-profit or private for-profit entity: Tillamook County – Pubic Entity

6. Briefly describe the activity or project for which funding is requested (please keep to 500 words or less.) Project Exodus is a Tillamook Bay Basin flood reduction project. Funds requested below are for one sub-project of Exodus called the "Blind Slough Project".

Project Exodus: A flood mitigation project designed to reduce high flood waters and limit the duration of floods to protect life and property. Overall project would reconnect Hall Slough allowing high flow flushing from the Wilson River; enhance flood water passage under Hwy 101 North; and enhance eco-system restoration by opening tidal water marsh areas including the Blind Slough area. All of these improvements will accelerate movement of water to Tillamook Bay. This project is a combination of two high priority projects offered by the U.S. Corps of Engineers in a Tillamook Bay & Estuary, General Investigation Feasibility Report, dated February 2005. The Corps is currently engaged with Tillamook County to provide preliminary design and modeling services for the project, along with the engineering firms of NHC/HBH.

Blind Slough Project: The first step in a larger salt water marsh restoration project. A Blind Slough plug with tide gates will be removed. Conveyance of high flood water from Hall Slough (connection from the flood plain to the Wilson River) would be facilitated. Project would establish a partial reconnection of a historic slough section. Approximately 100 acres of salt water marsh would be restored, which almost doubles the amount of off channel tidal habitat available on the lower Wilson River. Public recreation and access to Blind Slough area would be available.

7. Has this project received federal appropriations funding in past fiscal years? NO

7a. If yes, please provide fiscal year, Department, Account, and funding amount of any previous funding. N/A

8. Federal agency and account from which funds are requested (Please be specific –e.g. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Economic Development Initiatives account):

Department of Interior, Environment & Related Agencies Appropriations  
Account: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service – Resource Management, Fisheries & Aquatic Restoration

9. What is the purpose of the project? Why is it a valuable use of taxpayer funds? How will the project support efforts to improve the economy and create jobs in Oregon?

Overall, Project Exodus will reduce unacceptable flooding which bolsters the local economy and family wage jobs. From 1996-2007 frequent flood damages have ranged from \$5M to \$53M per event. Project will protect some properties now involved in FEMA disaster relief programs. Project is recognized by national environmental groups as having a significant wetland restoration component (see above #6 *Blind Slough Project*)

10. Have you requested funding for this project from other Members of Congress? If so, who?

Yes, a similar request has been forwarded to the offices of Senator Ron Wyden & Senator Jeff Merkley

11. Funding Details:

a. Total project cost (all funding sources and all years): \$20 million (Project Exodus)

b. Amount being requested for this project in Fiscal Year 2010: \$400,000 (Blind Slough)

c. What other funding sources (local, regional, state) are contributing to this project or activity? (Please provide specific dollar amount or percentage.)

Blind Slough:  
Preliminary engineering and modeling \$131,500 – State funds through Oregon Solutions Administration: \$40,000 - City/County funds & Foundation grant  
Final Engineering, Design, Permits \$180,000 – State funds through Oregon Solutions

d. Do you expect to request federal funding in future years for this project? YES

e. Breakdown/budget of the amount you are requesting for this project in FY 2010.

(E.g. salary \$40,000; computer \$3,000)  
\$400,000 – all construction dollars. Contract to be awarded through formal RFP process

f. Please list public or private organizations that have supported/endorsed this project:

Project has been developed and endorsed through an Oregon Solutions process. Governor Kulongoski designated this O/S process in Jan. 2007. Partners signing a Declaration of Cooperation, which includes Project Exodus, include 7 state agencies, local governments, private and non-profit entities. Please refer to [www.ORSolutions.org](http://www.ORSolutions.org) (Northwest Section) for full text of Declaration and other materials)

g. Is this project scalable? (i.e. if partial funding is awarded, will the organization be able to use the funds in FY 2010?):

Yes, current engineering and modeling will show various alternatives and sub-projects that could be constructed as alternatives.